



## CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS

CELEBRATES



SONOMA

# HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

SEPTEMBER 2001

When army officer and legislator Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo married Francisca Benicia Carrillo—daughter of a prominent San Diego family—in 1832, it was the start of one of California's most illustrious families. From their 58-year union came 16 children, including the first Californio admitted to West Point, successful artists and musicians, a noted surgeon and a well-respected pillar of Sonoma society. General Vallejo, who later named the city of Benicia after his beloved wife, was instructed in 1835 by Governor José Figueroa to lay out the pueblo of Sonoma. Today, Vallejo's design is essentially intact, and his Sonoma Plaza remains the largest in California.



COMMITTED TO PRESERVING  
THE CULTURAL RESOURCES  
AND HISTORY OF  
OUR DIVERSE STATE

[www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

Learn more about the Vallejo and Carrillo families by visiting Sonoma State Historic Park, Monterey State Historic Park and Old Town San Diego State Historic Park.